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οπρєс ѱυτεροс εκλε
κτη κυρια και τοις τε
κνοις αυτης ουс еγω
αγαπω εναληθεια και
ουκ еγω μονοσ αλλα
και παντες οι еγνωκο
τες την αληθειαν δια
την αληθειαν την με
νουσαν εν ημιν και
μεθ ημων εστα εις
τον αιωνα εστα με
θ ημων χαρις ελεος
ειρηνη παρ αϑυ πατροс
και παρ αι̅υ̅ χ̅υ̅ του̅ υ̅

ου του πατροс
θεια και αγαπη
ρη λειανοτι ευ
εκτων τεκνων
περιπατουντα
ληθεια καθωс
ληνε λαβομεν
πατροс και νυ
τωс κυρια ουκ
τολην γραφω
νην αλλα ην ει
απαρχηс ινα аг
μεν αλληλ ουс
τηс tin η αγαπ

οὗτοῦ πατρὸς ἐν Ἀλ-
θείᾳ καὶ ἀγαθῇ εὐχα-
ρίῃ λεῖαν ὁτι ἐγὼ καὶ
ἐκ τῶν τέκνων σου
περίπατοῦντες ἐν Ἀλ-
θείᾳ καὶ ὡς ἐν το-
λῇ ἐλάβομεν παρὰ
πατρὸς καὶ νῦν ἐρω-
τῶ σε κύριε οὐκ ὡς ἐν
τολῇ γραφῶν σου καὶ
ὅτι ἡ ἀλλὰ ἡ βίχη ὁ μὲν
ἀπὸ ἀρχῆς ἐν Ἀγαθῷ
μὲν ἀλλὰ ἡ λύσκει ἀγ-
τὴ ἐστὶν ἡ ἀγαθὴ ἡ ἐν Ἀ

ΙΩΑΝΟΥ Β

περίπατοῦμεν κατὰ
τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ
αὐτὴ ἡ ἐντολὴ ἐστὶ
καθὼς ἡ κοῦσα τε ἀπὸ
ἀρχῆς ἐν Ἀγαθῇ
περίπατητε ὅτι πολλοί
πλανοὶ ἐζηλθόντες
εἰς τὸν κόσμον οἱ μὲν
ὁμολογοῦντες ἰὴν χρισ-
τὸν ἐρχομένον ἐν σαρκί
οὗτος ἐστὶν ὁ πλανός
καὶ ὁ ἀντίχριστος
βλέπετε ἐε αὐτοῦς ἵνα
μὴ ἀπολέσῃτε αὐτὸν

ΩΑΝΟΥ Β

ΡΙΠΑΤΩΜΕΝΚΑΤΑ
ΣΕΝΤΟΛΑΣΑΥΤΟΥ
ΤΗΝΕΝΤΟΛΗΕΣΤΙΝ
ΘΩΣΗΚΟΥΣΑΤΕΑΠ
ΧΗΣΙΝΑΕΝΑΥΤΗ
ΕΡΙΠΑΤΗΤΕΟΤΙΠΟΛ
ΠΛΑΝΟΙΕΞΗΛΘΟΝ
ΣΤΟΝΚΟΣΜΟΝΟΙΜΗ
ΟΛΟΓΟΥΝΤΕΣΙΝΧΝ
ΧΟΜΕΝΟΝΕΝΣΑΡΚΙ
ΤΟΣΕΣΤΙΝΟΠΛΑΝΟΣ
ΙΟΑΝΤΙΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ
ΕΠΕΤΕΕΑΥΤΟΥΣΙ
ΜΗΑΠΟΛΕΣΗΤΕΑΗΡ

ΓΑΣΑΜΕΘΑΑΛΛΑΜΙΣΘΟ
ΠΛΗΡΗΑΠΟΛΑΒΗΤΕΠΑΣ
ΟΠΡΟΑΓΩΝΚΑΙΜΗΜΕ
ΝΩΝΕΝΤΗΔΙΔΑΧΗΤΟΥ
ΧΥΘΝΟΥΚΕΧΕΙΟΜΕΝΩΝ
ΕΝΤΗΔΙΔΑΧΗΝΟΥΤΟΣΚΑΙ
ΤΟΝΠΑΤΕΡΑΚΑΙΤΟΝΥ
ΙΟΝΕΧΕΙΕΤΙΣΕΡΧΕΤ
ΑΙΠΡΟΣΥΜΑΣΚΑΙΤΑΥ
ΤΗΝΤΗΝΔΙΔΑΧΗΝΟΥ
ΦΕΡΕΙΜΗΛΑΜΒΑΝΕΤΕ
ΑΥΤΟΝΕΙΣΟΙΚΙΑΝΚΑΙ
ΧΑΙΡΕΙΝΑΥΤΩΜΗΛΕΓΕ
ΤΕΟΛΕΓΩΝΓΑΡΑΥΤΩ

εθαλλαμισθῶ
απολαβητε πας
των και μη με
τη διδαχην του
υ κεχειομενων
ιδαχνουτος και
τερα και τον υ
ιεντις ερχετ
ε υμας και ταυ
την διδαχην του
μη λαμβανετε
εις οικιαν και
ναυτωμη λεγε
των γαυτω

χαιρειν κοινωνει τοις
εργοις αυτου τοις πο
νηροις πολλα εχων
υμιν γραφεινου κεβου
ληθην δια χαρτου και
μελανος αλλα ελπιζω
γενεσθαι προσ υμας
και στομα προσ τομα
λαλησαι ινα η χαραυ
μων τε πληρωμενη
η ασπασεται σε τα
τεκνα της αδελφης σου
τη σε κλεκτης

P R E F A C E .

A few words of introduction are necessary to the investigations contained in the following pages, in order to remove some of the perplexity which may hang around the enunciation of the theory which they contain.

In the course of an examination of the columnar arrangement of the text of the oldest MS of the New Testament, my attention was drawn to a remarkable numerical peculiarity in the arrangement of the lines and columns of the several books, and from this my mind was forced to the conclusion that the scribes of the New Testament produced epistles more uniformly written and at the closing page more frequently filled than is the custom at the present day; and that it was, in fact, possible to reproduce the original pages by a simple process of numerical subdivision, if only the MS had preserved the lines of the original writing. Further study of the Vatican Codex showed that a large number of the books of the New Testament were capable of this subdivision (by the very simple process of dividing the column of the MS into three equal parts), and that the pages resulting from the subdivision were very closely related to the original pages.

Perhaps this will become easier to apprehend by a simple variation of the statement. Imagine a printed book, in which there are, let us say, ten equal pages, of thirty lines to each page, printed uniformly. If a reprint be made of this book in any other form, *i. e.* on pages and with lines of a different size to the copy, it is evident that the original arrangement of the book will be lost, and it is very unlikely that the last page of the new book will be a complete one. If, however, the printer adheres to the original lines, no matter how he may change his pages or his type, we shall always be able to restore the book to its original shape by simple

subdivision of its 300 lines into ten pages, although, of course, the subdivision may not be easy to detect, nor to demonstrate. This is what has happened in the Vatican MS; the scribe has retained the original line, and in a certain sense has preserved the original page also, since he made his column (as the investigation will show) by placing three of the original pages in a vertical line. This fundamental fact is the key to the method of textual criticism to which these pages form an introduction.